

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method in a data preparation program for
2 transferring data in a data processing system, the method
3 comprising:
4 responsive to receiving user input, identifying data
5 from a relational database and creating a temporary data
6 set;
7 reading data from a relational database table in the
8 relational database into the temporary data set created
9 in response to the user input;
10 preparing the data read from the relational database
11 table into the temporary data set to form prepared data
12 for analysis;
13 creating a database table for the relational
14 database; and
15 placing the prepared data into the database table,
16 wherein the prepared data is ready for analysis.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 responsive to additional user input identifying data
3 located in a plurality of database tables, reading data
4 from the plurality of database tables into a plurality of
5 data sets;
6 merging the data from the plurality of data sets
7 into a single data set; and
8 preparing the data to form additional prepared data;
9 and

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

10 placing the additional prepared data in the single
11 data set into the database table.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the merging step
2 occurs after the step of preparing the data to form
3 additional prepared data.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein a data set in the
2 plurality of data sets includes values for a data object
3 and variables defining characteristics of the data
4 object.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the data set is a SAS
2 data set.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the generation of
2 output flat files is avoided.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the user input is a
2 query.

1 8. A data processing system in a data preparation
2 program for transferring data in a data processing
3 system, the data processing system comprising:
4 identifying means, responsive to receiving user
5 input, for identifying data from a relational database
6 and creating a temporary data set;
7 reading means for reading data from a relational
8 database table in the relational database into the
9 temporary data set created in response to the user input;

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

10 preparing means for preparing the data read from the
11 relational database table into the temporary data set to
12 form prepared data for analysis;
13 creating means for creating a database table for the
14 relational database; and
15 placing means for placing the prepared data into the
16 database table, wherein the prepared data is ready for
17 analysis.

1 9. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the
2 reading means is a first reading means, wherein the
3 preparing means is a first preparing means, and wherein
4 placing means is a first placing means, further
5 comprising:
6 second reading means, responsive to additional user
7 input identifying data located in a plurality of database
8 tables, for reading data from the plurality of database
9 tables into a plurality of data sets;
10 merging means for merging the data from the
11 plurality of data sets into a single data set; and
12 second preparing means for preparing the data to
13 form additional prepared data; and
14 second placing means for placing the additional
15 prepared data in the single data set into the database
16 table.

1 10. The data processing system of claim 9, wherein the
2 merging means is initiated after initiating the second
3 preparing means.

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

1 11. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein a
2 data set in the plurality of data sets includes values
3 for a data object and variables defining characteristics
4 of the data object.

1 12. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the
2 data set is a SAS data set.

1 13. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the
2 generation of output flat files is avoided.

1 14. The data processing system of claim 8, wherein the
2 user input is a query.

1 15. A computer program product in a computer readable
2 medium in a data preparation program for transferring
3 data in a data processing system, the computer program
4 product comprising:

5 first instructions, responsive to receiving user
6 input, for identifying data from a relational database
7 and creating a temporary data set;

8 second instructions for reading data from a
9 relational database table in the relational database into
10 the temporary data set created in response to the user
11 input;

12 third instructions for preparing the data read from
13 the relational database table into the temporary data set
14 to form prepared data for analysis;

15 fourth instructions for creating a database table
16 for the relational database; and

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

17 fifth instructions for placing the prepared data
18 into the database table, wherein the prepared data is
19 ready for analysis.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 15, further
2 comprising: sixth instructions responsive to a user input
3 identifying data located in a plurality of database
4 tables, for reading data from the plurality of database
5 tables into a plurality of data sets;
6 seventh instructions for merging the data from the
7 plurality of data sets into a single data set; and
8 eighth instructions for preparing the data to form
9 additional prepared data; and
10 ninth instructions for placing the additional
11 prepared data in the single data set into the database
12 table.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein
2 the seventh instructions are executed after the eighth
3 instructions.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein a
2 data set in the plurality of data sets includes values
3 for a data object and variables defining characteristics
4 of the data object.

1 19. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein
2 the data set is a SAS data set.

1 20. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein
2 the generation of output flat files is avoided.

Docket No. RSW920030075US1

1 21. The computer program product of claim 15, wherein
2 the user input is a query.

1 22. A data processing system comprising:
2 a bus system;
3 a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the
4 memory includes a set of instructions; and
5 a processing unit connected to the bus system, to
6 identify data from a relational database and create a
7 temporary data set, in response to receiving user input;
8 read data from a relational database table in the
9 relational database into the temporary data set created
10 in response to the user input; prepare the data read from
11 the relational database table into the temporary data set
12 to form prepared data for analysis; create a database
13 table for the relational database; and place the prepared
14 data into the database table, wherein the prepared data
15 is ready for analysis